GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3053
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2017
Procurement of Paddy
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for procurement of paddy from Gujarat;

(b) whether the whole quantity of paddy has not been procured from the farmers in Gujarat due to lack of godowns required for procurement of paddy;

(c) if so, the response of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide bonus to the farmers for making arrangement for procurement of whole quantity of paddy from Gujarat; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): There is a Uniform Policy for procurement of paddy by Govt. Agencies across the country. Under this policy, whatever food grains are offered by farmers from across the country, within the stipulated period, conforming to the specifications prescribed by Government of India, are purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the Govt. agencies including Food Corporation of India (FCI) for central pool. However, If any producer/farmer gets better price in comparison to MSP, he is free to sell his produce in Open Market i.e to private traders/anyone. If the produce of farmer does not meet the specifications and he does not agree to upgrade, then the farmer is free to sell to the private trader at mutually agreed rate. The details of Rice Procurement and Number of Purchase Centres opened in Gujarat for the last three years by FCI and State Govt. Agencies is given as under:-

Procurement of Rice in Gujarat
(Figures in LMT)
Marketing Season Estimates for Procurement Procurement No. of Purchase Centres opened
2014-15 0.00 0.00 65
2015-16 0.00 0.01 64
2016-17 0.01 0.01 59

(b) & (c): There is no instance of non-procurement of paddy from the farmers of Gujarat due to lack of godowns. Procurement is an open ended process and whatever food grains are offered by farmers, within the stipulated period, conforming to the specifications prescribed by Government of India, are purchased at MSP by the Govt. agencies including FCI for central pool. However, If any producer/farmer gets better price in comparison to MSP, he is free to sell his produce in Open Market i.e to private traders/anyone.

Gujarat Region have covered storage capacity of around 6.23 LMT which is sufficient enough to meet out the requirement of the state as per current procurement scenario.

(d) & (e): No Madam. There is no such proposal.
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